

March 8, 1990

LB 1141
LR 239

The students of the university are the ones who are dramatically affected by decisions on the Board of Regents at this time and would be dramatically affected by members of the board of trustees in their decisions. And the persons that you get on as board...student Board of Regents that I have worked with here at the university are very educated, talented and conscientious persons. They are not the campus radicals. They are not the persons who are not...who have run and have been elected for one specific purpose only or they're not flippant or irrational about things. They are very mature young adults and the students have views that could help contribute to the whole process of the governance or control of the particular institution. As it is in the LB 1141, you're going to have five adult members who are going to be appointed. It just seemed to me that one student member who would have a vote could contribute and could help in that whole process because they are the ones that see it from a different perspective. They have something to add. And I think at least from the student regents that I have worked with in the time I have been in the Legislature, I think they would have a positive effect and a positive impact on the whole issue. That's why I think they should be included.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Well, Senator McFarland, could there be the possibility that the election would be a popularity contest and we might get someone on there who does not have the qualifications you just mentioned that they should have?

SENATOR McFARLAND: That's always a possibility. That's a possibility when you have someone run for Governor that it becomes a popularity contest. I think, all too often, it has been. Or any legislative...see, any time you have an election, it can be a popularity contest, but I think...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR McFARLAND: ...I think that students generally take it very seriously and they may even take it more seriously and it would become a real issue with students running for that position on the board of trustees on the basis of what they would do and how they would represent the student body.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Thank you, Senator McFarland. Members of the body, I would urge you to support Senator Warner's amendment. Thank you.